

NEWSLETTER

Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook Christian Education Association Inc.

ABN 60 652 001 441

Autumn 2011

FROM OUR SECRETARY

Rod Yager, the Association's Secretary has written for this edition of our newsletter.

Who's in control?

The headline on a local newspaper I recently picked up read "Who's in control?" I think it's a question we often ask. The society in which we live is changing. Many voices are raised against Christianity. Questions are being asked about whether it is appropriate for Christians to hold significant public offices. Many important moral issues are being reconsidered by our parliaments, and it often seems that every viewpoint is treated with respect provided it isn't explicitly Christian. The voices raised in support of the introduction of Primary Ethics as an "alternative" for Special Religious Education classes in primary schools often made it quite clear that their support for Primary Ethics was motivated by their opposition to Special Religious Education. Just recently, I read an article in the Sydney Morning Herald arguing that Beach Missions should be outlawed.

And yet, as Christians, we know the answer to the question, "Who's in control?" The Word of God makes it clear that we are to expect opposition and persecution, and assures us that God is firmly in control of all things.

In the face of opposition he has warned us to expect, God asks us to be faithful to Him. In the context of the Christian Education Association, that means continuing to teach with integrity, being constant in our prayers for the staff and students at the two High Schools, being generous in our support of the work and taking every opportunity we have to demonstrate to the community at large the substantial benefits that the Christian Studies program brings to the two High Schools.

On behalf of the many whose lives God has transformed through this ministry, I thank you for your faithfulness now, in the past and into the future.

Rod Yager

ANNUAL DEDICATION SERVICE

7.30 pm, Thursday 17th March 2011

at Thornleigh Community Baptist Church

An opportunity to hear about the work and to encourage all those involved.

FROM PETER MURPHY

Peter is our full time teacher at Cherrybrook Technology High School

An Opportunity to Pause and Reflect

Christian Studies at Cherrybrook Technology High School

There are events in our lives that provide us with opportunities for reflection. The whole world pauses at Christmas to celebrate the joyful mystery of Jesus' birth. In our New Year's resolutions we consider those selfish habits that we would strive to discard. The birth of a child is a source of great joy for all. The death of a loved one is the cause of much grief. While we may celebrate their life and character at the funeral, their passing is a source of continuing distress as we mourn our painful loss. Natural disasters, such as the January floods in Queensland, also cause us to pause and reflect. All of these experiences, the good and the bad, may be used by God to remind us that He alone is sovereign and that He has a plan and a purpose for His creation. Ecclesiastes reminds us that *"for everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."* (Eccles. 3.1) Do we maintain an eternal perspective during these times or are we distracted and discouraged by them?

In Christian Studies classes at Cherrybrook Technology High School, students are provided with the opportunity to pause and reflect upon the deeper questions of Life as they study God's Word. For some students the lessons nurture their Christian faith, building upon the instruction already provided by loving parents, local churches and primary school Scripture teachers. For other students who are only just beginning to take their first steps in their Christian walk, the lessons provide them with the opportunity to build their infant faith on a solid foundation. For many students, coming from families of other faiths or no religious belief, Christian Studies classes provide them with their first real opportunity to explore and examine the claims of Christianity. It is my hope that the 2011 school-year will continue to provide this Association with the opportunity to proclaim and explain the Christian Gospel with the community of CTHS.

POINTS FOR PRAYER

- Give thanks for the opportunity we have to be able to have full time Special Religious Education teachers at Cherrybrook Technology and Pennant Hills High Schools.
- Give thanks for our teachers – Graham Castle (full time) and Grant Howard (2 days) at Pennant Hills High and Peter Murphy at Cherrybrook Technology High.. Give thanks for their skills and experience.
- Give thanks for those who have supported the Association with prayer, time and finance over the past 25 years.
- Pray for the new students coming to each of the schools this year. Pray that they will have a positive introduction to Special Religious Education.
- Pray for Grant and Graham at Pennant Hills High as they adapt to the new pattern of 80 minute lessons which for them commence this year.

ASSOCIATION'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Saturday 12th February 2011

8 – 10 am

2 Teddick Place, Cherrybrook

rspv 9980 2511 or treasurer@phccea.org.au

ASSOCIATION'S COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2011

The representatives of the member churches meet 4 times a year. The 2011 meeting dates are -

3rd February - 8 pm - Cherrybrook Community Centre (Cherrybrook Anglican Church)

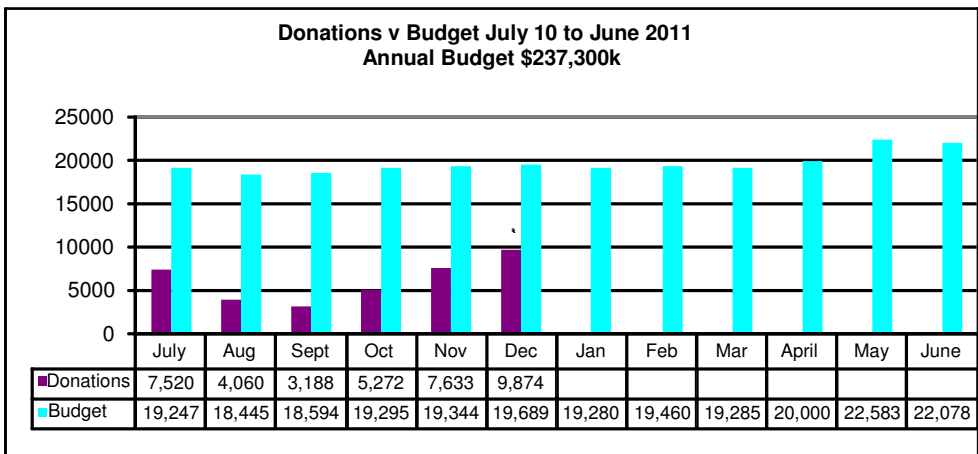
5th May , 4th August, 3rd November (AGM)

TREASURERS REPORT

Dear Supporters,

Our Annual Budget for Year Ending June 2011 is \$237,300.

As at 31st of December the balance in our Cheque account was \$3,449cr. The balance in our Cash Management account \$3,601cr. The Term Deposit for \$45,595 was on the 6th of January changed to \$20,000 over a 3 month term. The remaining monies being \$26,214.69 have been transferred to the cheque account, which includes interest received and fees paid. We will need \$12,000 of this transfer to take us through to the end of January; the remainder will go into the Cash Management account, until needed in February. We are now using the bequest of \$31,500 received by the association back in June 2009. Please see below our donations received v budget needs.



Please be in mindful prayer for our monetary situation in the months ahead.

Thank you for your support for our Teachers and the blessings we have in this ministry for our local High Schools.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on treasurer@phccea.org.au if you have any questions.

Yours in Christ
Elizabeth Morrison

*Please return
this form*

_____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook Christian Education Association Inc PO Box 346 Pennant Hills NSW 1715	

**To support and encourage the teaching of Christian Studies at Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook
Technology High Schools**

I wish to make a financial contribution to the work of the Pennant Hills & Christian Studies programs at
Pennant Hills and Cherrybrook Technology High Schools.

I enclose a donation of \$..... and request a receipt

Direct Deposit to our Account :

BSB 062 225 A/C No. 0090 3146

Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook Christian Education Assoc. Inc.

Send your address details to us or e-mail treasurer@phccea.org.au to have
your receipt sent to the correct address

and/or

I request a set of envelopes which can be forwarded directly to the Association or
placed in my church's collection.

Title	Surname	Christian names
Address		Postcode
Email		
Church	Phone	Date
S/08		

ALL DONATIONS of \$2 OR MORE ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Hand this form to a Management Committee member or post to:

Pennant Hills & Cherrybrook Christian Education Association Inc.

PO Box 346,

PENNANT HILLS NSW 1715

Enquiries to the Secretary - Dr Rod Yager ph 9945 2567 secretary@phccea.org.au